

The Auxiliary Pulse

Spring - 2022



President's Message - Linda Wolff

It's hard to believe that it has been two years since the hospital administration asked us to discontinue our service to the Tri-City Medical Center due to the Covid outbreak. A lot has happened since then. We successfully manned the Vaccine Clinic and continue to bring back departments as the regulations and protocols of the hospital allow. The future of the Auxiliary looks bright once again.

We did suffer some losses during this transition. Our membership drive has just completed and our membership to date stands at approximately 160 members. Before Covid we stood at approximately 500. As departments come back, we will continue to need more volunteers to fill the positions available. We have an updated brochure and are ready to take in new volunteers. Volunteers do need to be vaccinated and boosted to serve. Spread the word!



We look forward to our new badges that will be available in early May. The only change will be the blue borders that will replace the pink. We will have exchange dates for members to bring in their old badge and pick up the new one. This will help identify active members and will also blend better with our uniforms.

You may notice that the cones are no longer placed in our parking spots. When we were not on campus, staff was allowed to park in our spots. When we came back, the cones were placed to help keep those spots open for us. We are now a positive presence on campus so staff knows we will be using our Auxiliary marked spaces. If not by the time you get this edition of the *Pulse*, you should soon no longer have to move cones when wanting to park.

Spring is here and with it comes new growth and change both in nature and in our Auxiliary. We look forward to getting many new members. Elections will occur bringing a few changes to our Board. The Bylaws Committee is doing an amazing job drafting a revised set of Bylaws and Standing Rules to be presented at our Annual meeting in June. And, hopefully we can get back to activities with Covid under control.

Thank you for all you do to help Tri-City Auxiliary serve the hospital and the community. Enjoy our beautiful weather as we head into Spring!

~ Linda

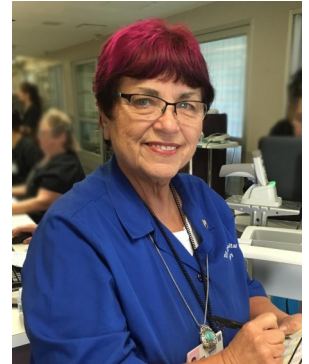


Chair's Corner

By Bunny McElliott, Second Vice President

I love spring! I feel renewed and excited to see the colors of spring with all the wonderful new growth sprouting up. I love the extra hours of daylight, as well as warmer weather. I also am filled with gratitude.

I especially am grateful for all of you, our wonderful volunteers who make the hospital a brighter place by your service. Our presence here at TCMC is so important. The hospital CEO, Mr. Dietlin, stopped by to say how much we are appreciated. Returning this last year has definitely made hospital staff delighted to see us. They appreciate the service we bring to them that helps their departments run smoother. They see the positive effect it has on our visitors and patients.



When the Information Desk is open, employees OFTEN stop by just to say how happy they are to have us back...we bring sunshine, smiles, and life into the hospital. Visitors remark on how helpful and kind our volunteers are. I see the generous gift of time and service you give and am excited and appreciative. YOU ARE VALUED! Thank you!

One of our less well-known activities is the knitting of baby caps, baby blankets, and chemo caps done by our volunteers at places like Fairwinds and La Costa Glen. Thankfully, Peggy Anstey recently stepped up to coordinate these items and see that they are properly distributed. Peggy said we presently have plenty of baby caps but could use some baby blankets.

Bit by bit our departments are filling their schedules with returning and new volunteers. Be sure to read the article below listing our newest members and welcome them to our Auxiliary. With a little luck, and continued reduction in Covid cases, we hopefully will continue to open previously closed departments. Our likely next department will be Pet Therapy so keep a look out for precious therapy dogs soon!

Happy Spring all you Awesome Volunteers!



Welcome

New Members

We are very happy to welcome the latest group of volunteers to the Tri-City Hospital Auxiliary. Each new member helps us fulfill our mission of delivering the best possible healthcare to our North County community. Thank you all for your interest and dedication.

Patient Escort
Diana Onofre Bolanos

Imaging
Paul Brady

Registration
April Nguyen
Mason Benitez

Gift Shop
Eloise Nicosia
Kimberly Eskes

Information Desk
Linda Brady

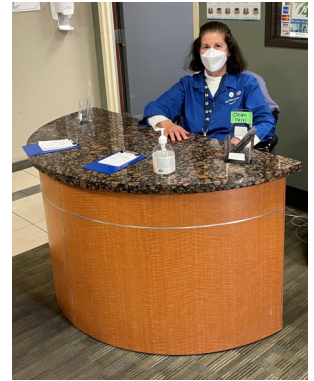


Department Spotlight

Registration Department

By Chris Sheets, Chair

Many individuals coming to the Tri-City Medical Center for care begin their process at the Registration Office. Hospital departments served by Registration include Surgery, Pre-op appointments, Radiology, Cardiology, Pulmonary, Physical Therapy, and Lab.



At Registration, Auxilian volunteers greet patients and collect basic information for the hospital staff. This typically includes name, date of birth, time of appointment and check-in time. With this information, hospital staff can locate doctors' orders and other information in preparation for the patient's visit.

Staff then verifies insurance and other information and issues a wristband that the patient will wear during their stay. Once this is complete, an Auxilian Patient Escort takes the patient to the appropriate department.



PALs Luncheon - 2022

By Liz Brayton, First Vice President

Each year the PALs Luncheon honors the Auxiliary's long and storied heritage. Standing for Past Auxiliary Leadership, PALs is a group of past presidents and current leaders that are the core of our success. In past years, this event has been held at the Hospital with representation from the Tri-City Medical Center administration present.

With the COVID pandemic still of major concern, this year's luncheon was held in a private room at the Hungry Hunter Steakhouse in Oceanside on Wednesday, January 26, 2022. Enjoying the delicious food and warm fellowship, and pictured here, were Past Presidents Connie Jones, Donna McConnell, Bertha Brooks, Jeff Marks, Mary Gleisberg, and Beth Hulsart. Also present were current President Linda Wolff and First Vice-President Liz Brayton. Unfortunately, other duties kept the TCMC administration from attending.





Elections

By Jane Palmiotti

It is once again time for the annual election of our Board of Directors. As our primary leadership group, these dedicated individuals will continue to guide us through the difficult process of reestablishing the Auxiliary as a vibrant part of Tri-City Medical Center.



Ballots will be mailed to active members on April 4 and must be returned no later than April 28. There will be a ballot box in the Auxiliary office or you may mail your completed ballots, so long as they are postmarked no later than April 28.

Directors are initially elected for a one-year term. Incumbent Directors seeking re-election will, if elected, serve a three-year term. Under our By Laws, individuals may serve for seven consecutive years.

Because they require special skills, two Board positions, Gift Shop Manager and Treasurer, serve for one-year terms and are not subject to the seven-year limit placed on other Board positions. This process also helps assure continuity, benefiting the Auxiliary.

In addition to the candidates on the ballot, seven Directors are in current three-year terms and will be returning. They are, President Linda Wolff, First Vice President Liz Brayton, Second Vice President Bunny McElliott, Chris Sheets, Jane Palmiotti, Michael Unverferth and Dick Robertson. We thank these individuals for their continued efforts on our behalf.

The article titled "Board Candidates" appears on Page 5 and lists the candidates that will appear on your ballot. We hope you find the information provided about these individuals valuable as you fill your ballot.



New District Board Member



Earlier this year long-time Tri-City Healthcare District board member Leigh Ann Grass resigned her position as Zone 5 director and moved out of California. Leigh Ann was a frequent visitor to the hospital and a supporter of the Auxiliary and our mission.

Recently selected to fill the Zone 5 vacancy is Vista resident Marvin Mizell. Mr. Mizell is a Deputy Attorney General for the State of California and has been a lawyer for more than two decades. He also serves on several community and professional boards including the City of Vista's Community Safety Commission. He was previously the president of the San Diego County Bar Association and was the first African-American male to serve in that role.

Our Auxiliary Board looks forward to meeting Mr. Mizell and will continue to support efforts to advance healthcare in our Tri-Cities community.



Board Candidates

Leadership of the Auxiliary is especially important as we rebuild after the long break caused by COVID-19. Presented in the order they will appear on your ballot; we are pleased to announce the 2022-23 candidates for the Board of Directors.

Candidates for a one-year term:

Kathey Cramm – Kathey joined the Auxiliary in 2017 and was appointed to the Board as 2021-22 Communications Director. In this role she manages the Auxiliary website. Kathey is Chair of the Patient Escort Department and was an active participant in the 2021 Covid Vaccine Clinic.

Arleen McCartney – Also appointed to fill a vacated Board position, Arleen is Community Outreach & Recruitment Director helping with our rebuilding efforts following the pandemic. Arleen works at the Information Desk and was also active in the Covid Vaccine Clinic. She has been an Auxilian since 2005.

Suzanne Knauf – Currently serving as Publicity Director, Suzanne was appointed to the 2021-22 Board. An Auxilian since 2019, Suzanne works in the Gift Shop and regularly volunteered for the Covid Vaccine Clinic.

Valerie Barros – Seeking her first term, Valerie joined the Auxiliary in 2019 and currently serves in the Clerical department. Valerie also participated in the Covid Vaccine Clinic.

Catherine Brownie – Also seeking a first term, Catherine works in Clerical and was part of the Vaccine Clinic Telephone Bank in 2021. She joined the Auxiliary in 2018.

Candidate for a three-year term:

Peter Fusselman – Currently Historian, Peter also serves as Editor of the *Pulse* Newsletter and participated in the Covid Vaccine Clinic. He joined the Auxiliary in 2014 and has served in Pet Therapy, Advocacy, and is currently a Patient Escort.

Candidates for an Annual Term:

Carole Vance (Gift Shop Manager) – Carole joined the Auxiliary in 2014 and has worked in the Gift Shop from the start. She became Gift Shop Manager in 2017.

Rosalind Bussey (Treasurer) – Treasurer since 2015, Rosalind joined in 2013 and has served in Advocacy, Surgery, and Information Desk. A regular participant in the Covid Vaccine Clinic, Rosalind also helped organized the Auxiliary Holiday Cookie Exchange.



Celebrating Our Return - One Department at a Time

At the moment, we have eight departments operating with more on the way. These include Clerical, Escort, Gift Shop, Imaging, Registration, Information Desk, Shuttle, and Workshop. Here are a few photos of some of our returned Auxilians in action.





Remembering Birthdays

We are bringing back a very special feature of *Auxiliary Pulse* - BIRTHDAYS. Yes, we all have them and hopefully they are filled with lots of good cheer. So far this year quite a few of our fellow Auxilians have celebrated their festive day.

January

Linda Aubery
Isabel Cazares
Sheila Dominguez
Denise Erickson
Joanne Kathleen Garrett
Mary Gonzales
Suzanne Heller
Debra Johnson
Katrina Kellenberger
Nancy Leach
Jamie LeSage
Natasha Letuli
Bruce Macklin, Jr.
Nikolai Manek
Kyra Miller
Ana Muñoz
Janette Nehls
Simon Nguyen
Wendy Owens
Alisa Sak
Carleen Smedley
Carl Toft
Kathleen Weak
David Weaver
Janet Wright
Kathleen York

February

Brianna Aguilar
Katherine Ballinger
Linda Brady
Karen Burton
Richard Cimicata
Lilly Crouch
Kathleen D'Avanzo
Hannah Erickson
Paula Foster
Janet Furrer
Grace Garber
Shaunte Hadnot
Janet Hale
Alan Kagan
Suzanne Knauf
Joy Ladner
Brenda Medrano
Quyên Nguyen
Uyen Nguyen
Karen Saunders
Craig Stewart
Carolyn Wysong

March

Rosanne Berg
Ann Berryman
Rosalee Biller
Lily Boyd
Paul Brady
Aileen Busser
RoseMarie Castellano
Emily Cornejo
Dorcas Edge
Lynn Fisher
Glenda Harris
Garry Hodges
Leslie Ineman
Paige Latson
Darah Matos
Pamela McCormick
Vickie Moskowitz
Katarina Newman
Margaret Ojeda
Elizabeth Ponec
David Quesenberry
Jacqueline Russell
Danielle Salamanca
Charles Shinnfield
Debra Shinto
Fran Steinberg
Alecia Tilch
Chris Wellenstein
Linda Wolff



Keeping it Light

Readers Digest used to have a column called, *Humor is the Best Medicine*. We can't confirm that prescription, but thought our readers might like a smile. Sorry for all the puns.

- ◆ I tried playing hide and seek in the hospital, but they kept finding me in the ICU.
- ◆ Who's the coolest person in the hospital? The Hip Replacement Guy.
- ◆ Never lie to an X-ray technician. They can see right through you.
- ◆ A fellow goes to a surgeon and says, "It hurts when I touch my neck, my arm or my chest." to which the doctor replies, "You've broken your finger."
- ◆ I said to the doctor at the hospital, "I keep dreaming my eyes change color". He said "It's just a pigment of your imagination"



Some Gentle Reminders

We are all happy to see the Auxiliary returning to duty. With some departments open and others opening soon, we thought this might be a good time to touch on a few Auxiliary policies.

Our uniforms set us apart from staff, visitors, and patients. The correct uniform includes white shoes, pants or skirts, as well as a white shirt under your blue vest or jacket. Please keep your vest or jacket neat and buttoned or zipped. Some departments, like Courtesy Shuttle and Pet Therapy, have slightly different uniforms to accommodate their work situation.

We also ask that you not wear perfumes or fragrances as they can cause unwanted reactions in visitors, patients, staff, and fellow volunteers.

Our final item is the Auxiliary mask policy. As you probably know, the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) requires everyone entering a healthcare facility, like TCMC, to be properly masked. Masks must cover both nose and mouth and be a “surgical quality” mask. Generally, this means a paper mask that is clean and fresh.

As ambassadors for TCMC, we often leave a lasting impression with visitors and patients. Let’s all work to be sure it is a great impression.



Spring Time in the Gift Shop



The Hospital Gift Shop is not only an important service for staff and visitors, it is a great place for Auxilians to work. For the shoppers among us, and we know there are many, this is a terrific place to pick up that special holiday decoration, cute piece of jewelry, or a fun accessory. Spring is here and the special items are really cute. Be sure to tell your friends and co-workers and remember to ask for your 20% Auxiliary discount!

As if cute merchandise and a great discount weren’t enough, keep in mind that the Gift Shop sales are the source of the Auxiliary’s annual gift to Tri-City Medical Center.

Pictured are Sandy Youngdale (left above) who created the lovely Easter display and Debbie Johnson (right) putting the final touches on the Easter Baskets.



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